

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 29 through page 13, line 9 with the following.

--Fig. 2 is a sectional representation along line A-A of Fig. 1. The section between the joining element 3 from the middle and the joining element 4 from the edge region between two corners of the composite plate of Fig. 1 can be recognized. In the case of joining element 3, the circular bore 13 in the metal sheet 2 is completely filled by the solid rivet shaft 7 in which the edges of bore 13 are embedded, with the result being that no relative movement is possible between the metal sheet 2 and plastics plate 1 at this particular location. Such relative movement is not necessary in the middle of a perforated-symmetrical plate. In the z direction, the joining element 3 is secured by the rivet head 16. The joining element 4 permits within the elongated hole 14 that is formed in the metal sheet 2, a movement of the solid rivet shaft 7 relative to the metal sheet 2 in the x direction.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 11-17 with the following.

--Fig. 3 is a section along line B-B through the joining element 4 on the right-hand side of the composite plate according to Fig. 1. The section through the joining element 4 transverse to the expansion direction, which runs in the x direction, is shown. The solid rivet shaft 7 produces an interlocking engagement between the metal sheet 2 and plastics plate 1 in the y direction, and the rivet head 16 produces a similar engagement in the z direction.--